

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently amended) A process for the reduction of ~~the~~ a residual monomer content and enhancement of ~~the~~ a wet strength of articles formed from water absorbent crosslinked polymer foams containing units derived from monoethylenically unsaturated acids, which comprises treating the formed articles with at least 0.5% by weight of a polymer containing primary and/or secondary amino groups and having a molar mass of at least 300.

2. (Currently amended) A The process ~~as~~ ~~elaimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein the polymer containing primary and/or secondary amino groups is used in an amount of 0.5% to 80%, ~~preferably from 1 to 20%~~, by weight.

3. (Currently amended) A The process ~~as~~ ~~elaimed in~~ of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the polymer containing primary and/or secondary amino groups is a polymer containing primary and/or secondary amino and/or ammonium groups and having a molar mass from 500 to 5 million.

4. (Currently amended) A The process ~~as~~ ~~elaimed in any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein the molar mass of the polymer bearing amino groups is from 1000 to 100,000.

5. (Currently amended) A The process ~~as~~  
~~elaimed in any~~ of ~~elaims~~ claim 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein the  
polymer bearing amino groups ~~is~~ comprises polymers  
containing vinylamine units, polyethyleneimines,  
polyvinyl guanidine, lysine condensates, and/or  
polyallylamines.

6. (Currently amended) A The process ~~as~~  
~~elaimed in any~~ of ~~elaims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein the  
formed foam articles ~~consist of~~ comprise water-ab-  
sorbent crosslinked polymers of acrylic acid.

7. (Currently amended) A The process ~~as~~  
~~elaimed in any~~ of claim 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein the polymer  
containing primary and/or secondary amino groups is  
selected from the group consisting of polyethylene-  
imines, crosslinked polyethylenimines, and amidated  
polyethylenimines having molar masses  $M_w$  of from 500 to  
3000000.

8. (Currently amended) A The process ~~as~~  
~~elaimed in any~~ of claim 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein the polymer  
containing primary and/or secondary amino groups is  
selected from the group consisting of vinylamine  
homopolymers, 1-99% hydrolyzed polyvinylformamides,  
copolymers of vinylformamide and vinyl acetate, vinyl  
alcohol, vinylpyrrolidone ~~or~~, and acrylamide, each  
having molar masses  $M_w$  of 3000-2000000.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Articles~~ An article formed from a water-absorbent crosslinked polymer ~~foams~~ foam containing units derived from monoethylenically unsaturated acids, and obtainable by the process of ~~elaims~~ claim 1 ~~to~~ 6.

10. (Currently amended) The article of claim 9 ~~use of the foams obtained according to the process of claims 1 to 8 in hygiene articles, wherein the hygiene articles are infant diapers, incontinence products, femcare articles, wound contact materials or secondary wound dressings~~ article comprises a hygiene article.

11. (New) The process of claim 1 wherein the polymer containing primary and/or secondary amino groups is used in an amount from 1% to 20%, by weight.

12. (New) The article of claim 11 wherein the hygiene article is selected from the group consisting of an infant diaper, an incontinence product, a femcare article, a wound contact material, and a secondary wound dressing.